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General Assembly

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Arrangements for the high-level meetings and the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

United Nations Headquarters, 20-30 September 2010

Information note for delegations

Addendum

I. Introduction

1. The present note is an addendum to the information note for delegations on the arrangements for the high-level meetings and the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly (A/65/HLPM/INF/1).

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution 64/203 and decision 64/555, decided to hold the high-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity on Wednesday, 22 September 2010, consisting of an opening plenary meeting from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., consecutive thematic panels from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

3. By its decision 64/567 (see A/64/L.70), the General Assembly decided on further modalities for the high-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity.

4. The General Assembly, by its resolution 64/199 and decision 64/555, decided to hold the two-day high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on Friday, 24 September and Saturday, 25 September 2010, beginning with an opening plenary meeting on 24 September from 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and ending with a closing plenary meeting on 25 September from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

5. By its decision 64/566 (see A/64/L.71), the General Assembly decided on further modalities for the high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States.

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II. Schedules, list of speakers, statements, documentation and interpretation

High-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity

6. The high-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity will take place on 22 September 2010, and will be held according to the following schedule:

9-10 a.m.	Opening plenary meeting
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Thematic panel
3-5 p.m.	Thematic panel
6-7 p.m.[1]	Closing plenary meeting

7. The plenary meetings will be held in the General Assembly Hall. The opening plenary meeting will be chaired by the President of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the speakers will be the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, a representative on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, a representative on behalf of the European Union, and representatives of Brazil, Germany and Japan.

8. At the closing plenary meeting, the President of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly will present a summary of the discussions during the high-level meeting and will transmit the summary, under his authority, to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, as a contribution to raising awareness of the three objectives of the Convention.

9. The two consecutive thematic panels will be held in Conference Room 2 (North Lawn Building). The General Assembly decided that the panel sessions will focus on the theme "The way forward in achieving the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the internationally agreed biodiversity goals and targets".

10. The list of speakers for each panel session will be made available prior to the meeting. Member States wishing to inscribe their names on the list of speakers are invited to contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch (room NL-1033, telephone 212 963 5063; fax 212 963 3783). In order to accommodate as many speakers as possible and taking into account time constraints, interventions should not exceed three minutes.

11. A minimum of 30 copies of the text of statements to be delivered at the high-level meeting should be submitted in advance to the Secretariat; failing this, delegations are urged to provide the interpreters with five copies (for interpretation into the five other official languages) before the speaker takes the floor. If delegations wish to have the text of statements distributed to all delegations, observers, specialized agencies, interpreters, record-writers and press officers,

[1] To be held immediately following the closing of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals.

350 copies are required. For distribution of the texts of statements to the press, see the information set out in A/65/HLPM/INF/1, paragraph 113.

12. Given the security arrangements in place for the high-level meeting, texts of statements should be delivered to the receiving area located at the rear of the General Assembly Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. by a delegation representative in possession of a valid United Nations building pass. Access will be through the 46th Street Gate to the Visitors Entrance, through the electronic screening area to the elevators on the west side of the Lobby to the receiving area, where a representative of the Secretariat will accept the texts at a special counter. Texts of speeches will be accepted only on the day they are to be given.

13. Only official documents of the high-level meeting on biodiversity bearing the General Assembly document symbol and texts of statements to be delivered at plenary meetings will be distributed in the General Assembly Hall.

14. Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the delegation in question must provide either an interpreter from the non-official into an official language or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages to be read out by a United Nations interpreter. On the basis of this interpretation or the written text which is accepted by the Secretariat as representing the official text of the statement, it will be interpreted into the other official languages by United Nations interpreters. When a written text is provided, the delegation concerned should make available to the interpreter someone who knows the language in which the statement is to be delivered and the official language into which it has been translated, to guide the interpreter through the translated text and to ensure synchronization between the speaker and the interpreter. Detailed arrangements for interpretation from non-official languages, including access by non-United Nations interpreters to the interpreter booths in the General Assembly Hall, must be made in advance through the Meetings Management Section (telephone 212 963 8114; fax 212 963 7405; e-mail: emeetsm@un.org).

High-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

15. The high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States will be held on 24 and 25 September 2010.

16. The high-level review will be held according to the following schedule:

Friday, 24 September 2010

9-11.30 a.m.	Opening plenary meeting
3-6 p.m.	Round table 1

Saturday, 25 September 2010

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Round table 2
3-6 p.m.	Interactive dialogue on cross-regional perspectives
6-7 p.m.	Closing plenary meeting

17. The plenary meetings will be held in the General Assembly Hall. At the opening plenary meeting, the speakers will be the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, a representative on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, a representative on behalf of the European Union, a representative on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States, a representative on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum, a representative on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States, a representative on behalf of the Africa, Indian Ocean and Mediterranean regions, a representative on behalf of the Caribbean region, a representative of the host country, representatives of Canada, Japan and Mexico, the Observer of the Commonwealth Secretariat and, time permitting, other Heads of State and Government indicating their wish to speak to the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly. The Assembly decided that the speaking order would be rearranged in accordance with the established practice of the Assembly. Taking into account the time constraints, statements will be limited to five minutes.

18. The round-table sessions and the interactive dialogue on cross-regional perspectives will be held in Conference Room 2 (North Lawn Building). The two round-table sessions will focus on the following themes:

Round table 1: Reducing vulnerabilities and strengthening resilience of small island developing States

Round table 2: Enhancing international support for small island developing States

19. The list of speakers for each round-table session will be made available prior to the meeting. Member States wishing to inscribe their names on the list of speakers are invited to contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch (room NL-1033, telephone 212 963 5063; fax 212 963 3783).

20. The closing plenary meeting will be comprised of the presentation of summaries of the round-table discussions and the interactive dialogue and the adoption of a political declaration.

21. A minimum of 30 copies of the text of statements to be delivered at the high-level review should be submitted in advance to the Secretariat; failing this, delegations are urged to provide the interpreters with five copies (for interpretation into the five other official languages) before the speaker takes the floor. If delegations wish to have the text of statements distributed to all delegations, observers, specialized agencies, interpreters, record-writers and press officers, 350 copies are required. For distribution of the texts of statements to the press, see the information set out in A/65/HLPM/INF/1, paragraph 113.

22. Given the security arrangements in place for the high-level review, texts of statements should be delivered to the receiving area located at the rear of the General Assembly Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. by a delegation representative in possession of a valid United Nations building pass. Access will be through the 46th Street Gate to the Visitors Entrance, through the electronic screening area to the elevators on the west side of the Lobby to the receiving area, where a representative of the Secretariat will accept the texts at a special counter. Texts of speeches will be accepted only on the day they are to be given.

23. Only official documents of the high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States bearing the General Assembly document symbol and texts of statements to be delivered at plenary meetings will be distributed in the General Assembly Hall.

24. Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the delegation in question must provide either an interpreter from the non-official into an official language or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages to be read out by a United Nations interpreter. On the basis of this interpretation or the written text which is accepted by the Secretariat as representing the official text of the statement, it will be interpreted into the other official languages by United Nations interpreters. When a written text is provided, the delegation concerned should make available to the interpreter someone who knows the language in which the statement is to be delivered and the official language into which it has been translated, to guide the interpreter through the translated text and to ensure synchronization between the speaker and the interpreter. Detailed arrangements for interpretation from non-official languages, including access by non-United Nations interpreters to the interpreter booths in the General Assembly Hall, must be made in advance through the Meetings Management Section (telephone 212 963 8114; fax 212 963 7405; e-mail: emeetsm@un.org).